

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 416

Introduced by Campbell, 25.

WHEREAS, Justin Smith Morrill was born on April 14, 1810, in Strafford, Vermont, the son of a blacksmith; and

WHEREAS, Justin Smith Morrill, after his formal education ended, entered the world of commerce at age fifteen; and

WHEREAS, Justin Smith Morrill retired from business at age thirty-eight to live the life of a gentleman farmer in Strafford, Vermont; and

WHEREAS, in 1854, Justin Smith Morrill was elected to represent Vermont's second congressional district in the United States House of Representatives, serving a total of six terms in that chamber; and

WHEREAS, in 1866, Justin Smith Morrill was elected United States Senator from Vermont, an office to which he was reelected five times for a combined total of forty-three years representing Vermont in Congress; and

WHEREAS, in 1857, when higher education was generally restricted to the teaching of theology, medicine, and philosophy to affluent white men, Representative Morrill introduced a bill in Congress that changed the course of American higher education by creating a national system of land-grant colleges to teach subjects related to agriculture and mechanic arts to Americans from all

walks of life in order to, as Morrill wrote, "promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes"; and

WHEREAS, since passage of the Morrill Act of 1862, more than twenty-three million students have graduated from the one hundred five land-grant colleges it brought into being, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Justin Smith Morrill will be celebrated on April 14, 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature commemorates the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Justin Smith Morrill on April 14, 2010.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to F. Edwin Harvey, Director of the Justin Smith Morrill Scholars Program at the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

3. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation.